

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 L-03 PA-01
PRS-01 USIA-06 /036 W
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R 272337Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9955

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, MX, US
SUBJ: MEXICANA DIRECTOR GENERAL ON AVIATION BILATERAL AND OTHER MATTERS

1. RECENT PRESS ARTICLE UNDER TITLE "MEXICO WILL DEMAND RECIPROCITY IN AIR CONVENTION" QUOTES MEXICANA AIRLINES DIRECTOR GENERAL MANUEL SOSA DE LA VEGA AS BEING OPPOSED TO CONCLUDING AN AVIATION BILATERAL WITH U.S. WHICH GIVES U.S. LION'S SHARE OF ANY BENEFITS. CHARACTERIZING THE U.S. POSITION IN PAST TALKS AS ONE OF "YOU GIVE ME WHAT I WANT AND WILL GIVE YOU WHAT I WANT", HE EMPHASIZED THAT HE WILL BLOCK ANY EFFORTS THAT WOULD HARM THE DIGNITY OF MEXICO AND ITS NATIONAL AIR CARRIERS. HE SAID THAT THE NEW BILATERAL SHOULD BE NEGOTIATED IN A SPIRIT OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY AND NOT IN THE USUAL CUSTOMARY U.S. WAY OF ASKING FOR EVERYTHING AND GIVING THE LEAST POSSIBLE. IN THIS REGARD, HE ADDED MEXICANA AND AEROMEXICO WOULD WORK TOGETHER TO DEFEND THE INTEREST OF THE TWO AIRLINES AND THE NATION.

2. ON SEPARATE SUBJECT HE ANNOUNCED THAT MEXICANA'S PROJECTED COMMENCEMENT OF SERVICE TO LONDON IN APRIL WOULD BE POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT YEAR OR POSSIBLY LATER. HE CITED LABOR PROBLEMS AND ADDED THAT NEGOTIATIONS TO PURCHASE OR CHARTER TWO BOEING 707'S
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AND PILOT TRAINING HAD BEEN SUSPENDED. HE ALSO REFERRED TO "THE DEFAMATORY CAMPAIGN AGAINST MEXICO DIRECTED BY POWERFUL U.S. AND CARIBBEAN TOURISTIC INTEREST." THE CAMPAIGN, HE SAID, HAD REDUCED MEXICANA'S CARRIAGE FROM THE EASTERN U.S. BY 20 PERCENT AND THAT OF U.S. AIRLINES TO A GREATER DEGREE.

COMMENT: SOSA'S STRONG REMARKS APPARENTLY ARE A REFLECTION OF

MEXICANA'S CONCERN OVER INCREASED INFLUENCE OF COUNTRY'S TOURIST
SECTOR WITHIN GOM AND POSSIBILITY THAT IT MAY HAVE INFLUENCE ON
BILATERAL AVIATION TALKS WHICH COULD RESULT IN AN AGREEMENT NOT
TO MEXICANA'S LIKING.
JOVA

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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